

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 02027 140608Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 NEA-10 SS-15 SSO-00 SP-02

INRE-00 L-01 /044 W

-----002689 140614Z /14

O 131120Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA

TB SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6612

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 2027

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, BA, US

SUBJECT: BAHRAINI ARMS REQUEST: LAW MISSILES

REF: (A) STATE 222005, (B) MANAMA 1751, (C) STATE 177613

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT INFORMED GOB THAT LAW MISSILES NO LONGER AVAILABLE AS ONLY PERSON TO WHOM SUCH NEWS COULD BE PASSED IS DEFENSE MINISTER WHO IS CURRENTLY IN U.K. ATTENDING AIR SHOW. IN MEANTIME, REQUEST URGENT REVIEW OF REF B AND PRECEDING TRAFFIC WITH RECONFIRMATION OF REF A INSTRUCTIONS IF STILL VALID.

2. IN NONE OF THE TRAFFIC ON THIS SUBJECT WAS ANY INDICATION GIVEN THAT LAW MISSILES WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE. ANY PRUDENT READING OF THIS TRAFFIC WOULD LEAD ONE TO CONCLUSION THAT THEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE AND ONLY QUESTION WAS NUMBERS. THIS INCLUDED TRAFFIC UP THROUGH MID-JULY. REF C PROMISED THE EMBASSY AN ANSWER ON THE NUMBERS QUESTION BY JULY 24. REF B REPORTED THAT DEFENSE MINISTER WAS ADVISED BY AMBASSADOR THAT LOA WAS IN THE MAIL ON JULY 31.

3. WE FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT OUR
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DEFENSE PLANNING AND PLANNING OF PRODUCING FIRM PERMITS, BETWEEN AUGUST ONE AND 31* A DECISION TO DISCONTINUE PRODUCTION WUTH USG HAVING NO ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS POSSIBILITY. IF THIS AMAZING STATE OF AFFAIRS IS INDEED TRUE, COULD WE NOT PARTIALLY COVER THE EGG ON OUR FACES BY MAKING SOME LIMITED NUMBER OF MISSILES AVAILABLE TO THE GOB FROM USG OR

MANUFACTURER'S STOCKS?

POWERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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